

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OIC-04 AID-20 CEQ-02

COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEA-02

AEC-11 CEA-02 CIEP-02 FPC-01 INT-08 OMB-01 SAM-01

STR-08 TRSE-00 DOTE-00 CG-00 FAA-00 HEW-08 HUD-02

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TAGS: OCON, UN, SENV

SUBJ: UN CONFEX ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: INFORMAL
MEETING

SUMMARY: AT THE SECOND MEETING 14 COUNTRIES SPOKE IN RESPONSE TO THE OPENING STATEMENT MADE BY THE SYG (PENALOSA). THE MOST OFTEN EXPRESSED COMMENT WAS THE SCOPE OF THE CONFERENCE WHICH DELS CONSIDERED FAR TOO LARGE FOR A TEN DAY WORKING CONFERENCE. THE SECOND ISSUE WHICH A MAJORITY OF DELS COMMENTED ON WAS THE EXHIBITS OR DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS. IT WAS NOT CLEAR TO MOST WHAT EXHIBITS WOULD ENTAIL, HOW THEY WOULD BE DISPLAYED, THE COSTS AND WHAT THEIR VALUE WOULD BE AFTER THE CONFERENCE. THE THIRD MAJOR ISSUE EVOKING CONCERN WAS THE DATE OF THE FIRST PREPCOMM. CANADA INTRODUCED THE RECOMMENDATION THAT THE MEETING TAKE PLACE IN JANUARY 1975. OTHER DELS RECOMMENDED SEPTEMBER;
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SOME WERE AMBIVALENT. IT WAS FINALLY AGREED THAT A

WORKING PARTY BE ESTABLISHED WITH THE MISSION OF PRODUCING LIST OF KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION BY CONFERENCE AND DRAFTING AGENDA FOR FIRST FORMAL PREPCOMM MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. CANADA DEL (MCNEILL) HOST FOR THE CONFERENCE-EXPOSITION LED THE LIST OF SPEAKERS. DEL NOTED CANADA'S CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENT AND INTEREST IN FINDING SOLUTIONS TO HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROBLEMS. MAJOR CONFERENCE ISSUES AS SEEN BY CANADA ARE: 1) TO IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS KEY PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES; 2) TO IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS; 3) TO STIMULATE INNOVATION AND USE OF TECHNOLOGIES AND 4) TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROGRAM OF ACTION AND FINANCE. DEL FELT THAT THE DEMONSTRATION OR EXHIBITS COMPONENT OF THE CONFERENCE POSED A PROBLEM BUT SAID THAT PROBLEMS COULD BE TURNED INTO OPPORTUNITIES. CANADA SEES SOLAR ENERGY, PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT OF URBAN GROWTH, WATER RECYCLING, NEW APPROACHES TO METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT AND SIMPLE TECHNOLOGIES FOR TRANSPORT AS SOLUTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN FOUND AND CAN BE TRANSFERRED TO OTHER COUNTRIES. SINCE THE PREPCOMM IS CRUCIAL IN DEFINING ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE CONFERENCE CANADIAN DEL RECOMMENDED THAT THE FIRST SESSION BE DELAYED UNTIL JANUARY TO ALLOW FOR ADEQUATE PREPARATION. DEL NOTED THAT AS HOST, CANADA WOULD HAVE STAFF TO MANAGE CONFERENCE. HE ALSO SAID THAT SPACE WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR NGO'S. FRG (STOEGER) ASKED IF THE CONFERENCE FUNCTION WAS TO BE INFORMATIONAL OR INNOVATIVE. DEL EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE CONFERENCE SHOULD SERVE AS AN ARENA FOR THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS BETWEEN THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. PRESENTATION SHOULD INCLUDE SOLUTIONS WHICH FAILED AS WELL AS THOSE WHICH WORKED. THE BRAZIL DEL (BRITO) IN A SCATHING STATEMENT SAID THEMES SUBMITTED FOR THE CONFERENCE WERE SO BROAD THAT TWO YEARS, NOT TWO WEEKS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO COVER THEM. HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE CONFERENCE FOCUS ON THREE ISSUES: 1) PLANNING; 2) TECHNOLOGIES AND 3) INSTITUTION BUILDING. THE ARGENTINE DEL (LOPEZ) SUPPORTED BRAZIL AND ADDED TWO ADDITIONAL THEMES: FINANCING OF HOUSING AND THE

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QUALITY OF LIFE. PAKISTAN (BARTOLOME) AND KENYA (LIGALE) ASKED IF THE UN OR CANADA WOULD FINANCE EXHIBITS FOR THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

2. THE USSR (SOKOLOV) STRESSING LINKS BETWEEN ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING SUGGESTED THAT NATIONAL REPORTS INCLUDE: OPTIMAL URBAN ENVIRONMENT, TOWN PLANNING, REST AND RECREATION, AND CLIMATE. REFERRING TO REVIEW

AND APPRAISAL HE NOTED THAT THE RES ON THIS ISSUE CALLED FOR PEACE AND SECURITY. HE SAID THAT DURING THE PROCESS OF DETENTE DISARMAMENT FUNDS SHOULD BE USED FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL PROGRESS. HE CITED THE RES PASSED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING AT ITS RECENT SESSION WHICH CALLED FOR A TEN PERCENT REDUCTION IN MILITARY BUDGETS. THE TEN PERCENT WOULD THEN BE USED FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. PRAISING THE USE OF FILMS AT THE SPOKANE EXHIBITION, THE USSR DEL SUPPORTED THE USE OF NEW TECHNIQUES IN FILM MAKING FOR THE VANCOUVER CONFERENCE.

3. U.S. DEL (TRUEHEART) EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR SECGEN AND FOR CONFERENCE (INCLUDING PROPOSED NEW CONFERENCE TITLE). HE NOTED THAT VANCOUVER WOULD BE A LOGICAL FOLLOW-UP TO THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE AND WOULD BE A FORUM WHERE COUNTRIES COULD LEARN AND GAIN EXPERIENCE FROM OTHERS, INCREASE AWARENESS OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROBLEMS AND AVAILABILITY SOLUTIONS CONFERENCE SHOULD BENEFIT BOTH DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. HE CAUTIONED AGAINST FACILE SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX PROBLEMS AND SPECIFICALLY AGAINST CREATION OF NEW UN INSTITUTION. A RE-EXAMINATION OF EXISTING UN INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR INTERRELATIONSHIPS COULD, BE THOUGHT, LEAD TO MORE EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION. THE CENTER FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING, THE IHHSF AND UNDP WERE CITED AS INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED WITH HUMAN SETTLEMENTS WHICH SHOULD BE EVALUATED. DEL SUGGESTED NARROWING THE FOCUS OF THE CONFERENCE SINCE ALL ASPECTS LISTED BY THE SECRETARIAT COULD NOT BE COVERED DURING THE VANCOUVER SESSION. AGREED ON IMPORTANCE ASSOCIATING NGO'S WITH CONFERENCE AND UNCLASSIFIED

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EXPRESSED APPRECIATION CANADIAN READINESS PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR PARALLEL NGO MEETING; UN FUNDS SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE. WHILE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE USE OF FILM PRESENTATIONS, THE US. DEL NOT SURE OTHER VISUAL FORMS SHOULD BE ABANDONED (AS SUGGESTED BY SECGEN). US DEL REQUESTED CLARIFICATION REGARDING: THE QUESTION-NAIRE FOR THE CONFERENCE; FUNDING FOR DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS AND FOR REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL CONFERENCES PROPOSED TO TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO THE VANCOUVER SESSION. REMARKING ON THE FIRST PREPCOMM THE US. DEL SAID THAT DEFERRAL OF THE MEETING COULD CAUSE LOSS OF MOMENTUM AND SUGGESTED THE SEPTEMBER DATE BE KEPT AND ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT 3RD PREPCOMM BE SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY OR FEBRUARY 1976. DEL CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT THE US. SEES A MUTUALLY SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIP

BETWEEN EXPOSITION SIDE OF HIBITAT AND THE 1976
US. BICENTENNIAL.

4. FINLAND, SWEDEN, THE UK AND JAPAN SUGGESTED THAT
THE SCOPE OF THE CONFERENCE BE REDUCED. FINLAND
AND SWEDEN RECOMMENDED THAT SOCIAL ISSUES BE EMPHASIZED
AT THE CONFERENCE AND THAT THE FIRST PREPCOMM, IF
POSSIBLE, BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER. ALL STRESSED THE
IMPORTANCE OF NEGATIVE OR PROJECTS WHICH FAILED AS
IMPORTANT LEARNING EXPERIENCES AND SUGGESTED INCLUSION
IN CONFERENCE DEMONSTRATIONS. FINLAND AND KENYA
RECOMMENDED THAT RURAL AND URBAN PROBLEMS BE INCLUDED
IN THE CONFERENCE FORMAT.

5. IN RESPONSE TO DELS COMMENTS THE SECRETARIAT
RECOMMENDED A WORKING PARTY TO REVIEW THE THEMES OF
THE CONFERENCE AND THE PREPARATION OF AN AGENDA FOR
THE PREPCOMM. THE WORKING PARTY INCLUDES: U.S., UK,
USSR, BRAZIL, AUSTRALIA (CHAIRMAN), CANADA,
FINLAND, FRG, EGYPT, TURKEY, HUNGARY, ARGENTINA, KENYA,
AND PAKISTAN.

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